

Application No. [10/724,180]

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REMARKS

The Examiner objected to claims 1 to 5 as being anticipated by Rifken, (US Patent No. 2,457,274). As noted by the Examiner Rifken teaches a towel holder having a frame and at least one resilient flap supporter within the frame. The Examiner also objected to claim 3 on the basis that there are exposed surfaces adjacent to the periphery that can be used for indicia.

The applicant has amended claims 1 and 7 and submits new claims 11 and 12.

Amended claim 1 specifies that the frame further comprises a panel comprising indicia, and that a towel inserted between the resilient flap and the compression member will not obstruct the panel when the holder is suspended. Rifken does not disclose a panel comprising indicia disposed on the frame of the holder. Further, Rifken does not disclose the arrangement whereby the panel is not obstructed by a towel when the holder is suspended.

Amended claim 7 specifies that the panel comprising indicia is disposed on a thickened peripheral edge of the frame. Rifken teaches neither the use of a thickened peripheral edge, nor the disposition of a panel comprising indicia on the thickened edge.

New dependent claim 11 adds the limitation of a slot through the frame. The location of the slot orients the frame when suspended from the slot, such that a towel inserted between the resilient flap and the compression member will not obstruct the panel comprising indicia when the holder is suspended. Support for claim 11 is provided at paragraph 26 of the disclosure, as well as figures 1, 2, 4, 6, 7-11.

New claim 12 is directed towards a towel holder with a slot through the frame and a panel comprising indicia disposed between the slot and at least one resilient flap supported within the frame. Support for claim 12 is provided at paragraph 26 of the disclosure, as well as figures 1, 2, 4, 6, 7-11.

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Favourable examination is respectfully requested.

Executed at Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on May 24, 2006.

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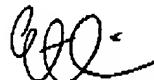
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